FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

6 JANUARY 1986

Libya

Tripoli television broadcast part of Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi's 5 January press conference with U.S. journalists in which he viewed the U.S. military buildup as "a state of war" and confirmed that the Libyan Armed Forces are on a state of alert. Libya will not continue to exercise self-restraint and live under continuous threat and terrorism, he declared, adding that "we may explode" at any hour. The television also reported his statement that Libya is capable of using the SAM-5's it has received from the Soviet Union. On the issue of terrorism, Al-Qadhdhafi described the attacks on passengers at airports as "illegal" as far as Libya is concerned and he disclaimed responsibility for the methods used by Palestinian fedayeen. He maintained that there are no Palestinian camps in Libya, pointing out that the Palestinians have their own camps in Lebanon and in "other places around Palestine." Tripoli television had earlier carried statements from Basic People's Congresses threatening the formation of "suicide squads" to attack targets on "enemy soil" and warning countries containing U.S. bases that "the battle will be moved into these countries" if the bases are used against the Jamahiriyah.

Meanwhile, Arab League foreign ministers condemned U.S. "hostility" toward Libya in a statement issued at the conclusion of their emergency session in Tunis over the weekend, KUNA reported. The question of U.S. and Israeli threats to attack Libya will also be discussed at the forthcoming meeting of Islamic foreign ministers in Fes, Rabat radio revealed. In a 4 January telephone conversation with Al-Qadhdhafi, Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad informed the Libyan leader that Syria places all its capabilities at Libya's disposal to confront the "Zionist and U.S. threats," Tripoli television reported, while Voice of Greater Arab Homeland radio cited a similar message of support from the PDRY leader. Damascus radio had earlier broadcast a statement by a Syrian responsible source stressing that Syria will participate in repulsing any attack on Libya.

Among other Arab reaction to the crisis, a Riyadh radio commentary emphasized that U.S. support for Israeli threats against Arab countries and the Palestinians is "absolutely rejected." Egypt's *AL-AHRAM* urged the United States to exercise "self-restraint" and not take retaliatory action against Libya, MENA reported, and Defense Minister 'Abd al-halim Abu Ghazalah said Egypt does not intend to take military action against any of its neighbors. A Cairo radio commentary expressed scepticism about the likelihood of a U.S. or Israeli military action against Libya, contending that the existence of the Al-Qadhdhafi regime is politically useful for Israel and the United States and that the damage caused by military action would outweigh any modest gains made.

In Jerusalem, Israeli officials cited by *THE JERUSALEM POST* said they were not unhappy at the idea of a U.S. strike against Libya but they dismissed the possibility of a joint Israeli-U.S. venture and "completely opposed" a unilateral Israeli attack on Libyan targets.

As for Sabri al-Banna, alias Abu Nidal, the Kuwaiti paper *AL-SIYASAH noted reports that Abu Nidal is currently receiv*ing medical attention in a Yugoslav hospital.

Lebanon

Syrian Missiles — While confirming U.S. reports that Syria has withdrawn its SAM-6 and SAM-8 batteries from Lebanon, top IDF sources cited by Jerusalem radio said this "may not end the affair" because the "main problem" for Israel is the SAM-2's, which remain deployed along the Syrian border near Lebanon. The radio also reported that a Soviet spy ship is cruising off the Lebanese coast in an apparent attempt to monitor developments resulting from the Israeli-Syrian tension over the missiles. In other military developments, Israeli military sources denied Lebanese reports of an IDF buildup in Israel's security zone in southern Lebanon, Jerusalem radio noted. Beirut radio said 30 Israeli tanks have entered the area and warned of an impending Israeli action in the south. Meanwhile, a senior IDF source cited by Jerusalem radio denied the recent Kuwaiti press report that Syria has received T-80 tanks from the Soviet Union.

French Hostages — Two French journalists recently returned from Lebanon with news that the four French hostages are now under Syrian control and may be released soon, Paris radio reported. French President Francois Mitterrand has discussed the matter in a telephone exchange with Syrian President al-Asad, according to a UAE press report cited by Abu Dhabi radio.

Tripartite Agreement — Sources close to President Amin al-Jumayyil disclosed that Syria has agreed to his proposed amendments to the tripartite agreement, the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon reported.

Israel

Relations with Egypt — After Prime Minister Shim'on Peres' 5 January meeting with the Egyptian charge d'affaires, sources in Peres' office said there is now an accepted foundation for an Egyptian-Israeli "package deal" which could improve bilateral relations, Jerusalem radio reported. The deal provides for the Tabah conflict to be resolved simultaneously with the normalization of relations and for the return of the Egyptian ambassador to Tel Aviv, the sources disclosed. Peres stressed in a Jerusalem television interview that the Inner Cabinet must reach a decision on the package deal "this week or next week."

Iran-Iraq War

Iraqi forces captured the southern Majnun oil field 6 January, a military communique cited by INA asserted. The Iraqi troops were deployed in the "liberated areas" after inflicting "hundreds

of casualties" in the assault. An Iranian Joint Staff communique cited by IRNA announced that Iranian planes inflicted losses on Iraqi forces in a 4 January raid on Rawanduz garrison. Iraq rebutted the claim in a military communique carried by Baghdad Voice of the Masses radio, saying that two Iranian planes were forced to flee when they attempted to attack a residential section of Rawanduz. Iraqi communiques also announced that Iraqi planes attacked Khark Island 4 and 5 January, hit a large maritime target near the Iranian coast 5 January, and flew 84 combat missions against ground targets 4 January, particularly noting a "destructive" air raid on Iran's Baneh military camp.

Iran

Turkish Prime Minister Turgut Ozal arrived in Tehran 3 January leading a "200-man delegation," saying at the airport that he is in Tehran to discuss regional issues, IRNA reported. The agency also reported that a French delegation arrived 3 January to study Iranian-French "financial disputes" and that Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Georgiy Markovich Korniyenko will visit Tehran "later this month."

Inter-Arab Affairs: Bilateral Meetings

Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid demanded that Libya must "patch up differences with Tunisia" before he will meet with Libyan leader Colonel al-Qadhdhafi, according to an *AL-ITTIHAD* report cited by KUNA. Meanwhile, Baghdad radio announced that Iraqi President Saddam Husayn received PLO Executive Committee Chairman 'Arafat over the weekend and Damascus radio reported that a Jordanian delegation led by Interior Minister Hasan al-Kayid began talks in the Syrian capital.

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Politburo Urges Support for Private Sector

LD052112 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 5 Jan 86

[Text] A session of the PDPA Central Committee Politbure, chaired by Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee and president of the DRA Revolutionary Council, was held today. The session appraised the condition and adoption of practical measures for increased production of primary goods and handicrafts by private sector industries in the DRA.

The Politburo session pointed out that the private industrial sector plays an important role in our national economy, for the growth of domestic production, maintaining primary goods and increasing the country's revenue resources. The state has strongly supported private industries. Loan facilities extended to private investors during the revolution years exceeded 897 million Afghani.

In accordance with the resolutions of the 16th PDPA Central Committee Plenum concerning the national democratic character of the April Revolution and the pressing tasks under present conditions, the protection and assistance planned for private sector industries constitute one of the major tasks of the state and party organs, trade unions, and other social organs in the economic sphere. Under the present conditions, industry and the people employed in this sector are regarded as a constituent part of the national economy in order to broaden the socioeconomic foundations of revolutionary rule.

The PDPA Central Committee Politburo stated that any party and state authorities creating obstacles in the path of the growth and expansion of the private sector will be investigated and tried. The private sector should be comprehensively supported and (?regulated). A number of DRA ministers took part in these discussions.

Babrak Karmal drew the attention of the participants to the growth and support of the private sector in accordance with the statement of the DRA Revolutionary Council. Also, the Politburo session heard the report of Mahmud Barialay, candidate member of the Politburo and secretary of the PDPA Central Committee, concerning the participation of the PDPA delegation in the 100th anniversary of the National Congress Party (I) of India. The session affirmed the results of the visit of the PDPA delegation and pointed out that further consolidation of friendship between the parties and peoples of Afghanistan and India is in the interest of international peace, and strengthens the Nonaligned Movement and the progress of the peoples of both countries. The PDPA supports and affirms the healthy and realistic foreign policy of the Indian National Congress (I) Party under the leadership of Rajiv Gandhi, chairman of the Nonaligned Movement.

The session also heard the report of Mahmud Barialay concerning the visit of the PDPA delegation to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. The session stated that the PDPA supports the cause of unification of Korea and considers U.S. imperialism to be a common enemy of the peoples of both countries and of the whole of mankind.

The session of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo also heard the report of Shah Mohammad Dost, the DRA minister of foreign affairs, in connection with the results of the sixth round of talks between the DRA and Pakistani delegations in Geneva. The Politburo affirmed the principled stand of the Afghan delegation at the talks and pointed out that this stand stems from the peaceful foreign policy of the DRA.

The session stated that, despite serious obstacles created by Pakistan in the progress of the talks and the daily increasing interference which continues under direct pressure from U.S. imperialism, the talks -- under the auspices of the United Nations -- could be considered as a useful step toward resolving the situation surrounding Afghanistan. The DRA Central Committee Politburo adopted a series of decisions about a number of important domestic and external issues.

Revolutionary Council Appoints Prosecutor General

LD051556 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 5 Jan 86

[Text] The Secretariat of the DRA Revolutionary Council reports that Mohammad Osman Rasekh has been appointed as DRA prosecutor general by the Presidium of the DRA Revolutionary Council.

BIA on Khyber People's Opposition to Rebels

LD041215 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 3 Jan 86

[Excerpts] The political commentator of BIA writes: Two chieftains of the Afghan counterrevolutionary bands, Golboddin and Yunis Khalis, were instructed by the Pakistan regime to go immediately to Islamabad to receive instructions about using the criminal rebel bands to crush the Afridi and Shenwar tribes.

The report says that a number of Pakistani generals have been instructed to draft, in consultation with these two professional criminals, the plan for organizing the Pakistani Army and Afghan rebel bands to crush the courageous people of Khyber.

The use of Afghan counterrevolutionary bands against the courageous Afridi and Shenwar tribes, who are fighting for the defense of their pride, honor, and their traditional and historic independence, is taking place under direct orders of Washington.

Prior to the attacks in the Khyber Valley by the mercenary army of Pakistan, a high-ranking U.S. military visitor to this region issued the necessary instructions about increasing the use of the counterrevolutionary bands against the tribes. The bestial nature of U.S. imperialism's and the CIA's enmity toward the Afridi and Shenwar tribes and all autonomous Pashtun tribes has a subjective foundation. The independent tribes have announced that they were not going to allow the counterrevolutionaries to use their land as a springboard for the undeclared war against the DRA. Thus far, in tens of tribal jirgas, they have stated that they regard Afghanistan as their historic homeland and will not allow its enemies to export death and destruction to this country via the territory of the autonomous tribes. They do not want their

territory to be transformed into battlefield for the interests of reaction and imperialism. The Washington administration, unleashing an undeclared war against the DRA, has so far spent nearly $2 billion on this path.

The latest reports indicate that the Afghan counterrevolutionary bands will take part in operations with the mercenary army of Pakistan against the autonomous tribes. They should know that the determination and unity of the tribes and the strong fist of the independent tribes from Chatral to Baluchistan will be a severe blow. These bands should know that their chieftains, who are regarded by imperialism as the so-called mujahidin of the path of Islam, are no more than mercenary criminals.

Rebels Crushed, Arms Captured in Herat, Farah
LD042300 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 4 Jan 86

[Text] Quoting a spokesman of the security forces a BAKHTAR INFORMATION AGENCY correspondent reports that as a result of the successful operations carried out in the environs of Herat Province by the security forces, a number of the counter-revolutionary elements were crushed and some of them, including Abdol Wahed — one of their ringleaders — were injured.

Furthermore, 13 weapons and a large amount of ammunition were seized from them. One recoilless gun, 3 DSHKs, 7 mortars, 8 rocket launchers, 138 weapons, 3 foodstuff depots, 2 ammunition depots, 15 committees [as heard] and 26 hideouts of the enemy were destroyed.

According to another report, as a result of successful operations which were carried out in Derweshan village, Farah Province, a number of the armed counterrevolutionaries were crushed. The security forces seized surface-to-surface missiles, 86 anti-tank and anti-personnel mines, two mortars, 1 DSHK and 53 weapons. One rocket launcher and one heavy machinegun were destroyed.

SPA: Afghan Mujahidin Operations Detailed
GF051248 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 0956 GMT 5 Jan 86

[Text] Islamabad, 5 Jan (SPA) — Afghan mujahidin killed over 100 Soviet and Afghan troops, downed 4 Soviet MiG fighters and 1 helicopter, and destroyed 20 tanks and vehicles during extensive Soviet attacks on Qandahar and Oruzgan Provinces in December 1985. The Afghan mujahidin press agency [AAP] reported that a Soviet general who was among the crew of a downed aircraft has been killed.

AAP also reported that on 27 December the mujahidin carried out an ambush near Maro in Qandahar Province which resulted in heavy losses among Soviet troops and the destruction of two tanks.

MAP: Afghan Mujahidin Request ICO Membership
LD031644 Rabat MAP in English 1200 GMT 3 Jan 86

[Text] Peshawar (Pakistan), Jan 3 (MAP) — The Afghan mujahidin have requested membership into the 45-member Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC) that will convene in Fes (Morocco) from January 6 to 10 at the level of foreign affairs ministers.

Mr Sayyed Ahmad Gaylani, spokesman for the Islamic resistants which includes seven Afghan parties exiled in Pakistan, announced on Thursday [2 January] at a news conference that he will lead a delegation of mujahidin to the Fes conference to ask to occupy the seat of Afghanistan.

Afghanistan was expelled from the OIC in 1980. The 45-member countries of this Islamic organization consider that the government of Babrak Karmal, who seized power after the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan in 1979, does not represent the Afghan people.

Ershad Plans To Establish Elected Government

BK041607 Dhaka Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 4 Jan 86

[Excerpt] President Ershad has said his government is determined to establish an elected government in the country by holding national elections. He was addressing two separate gatherings of workers at Guptakhali in port area of Chittagong today.

The president stressed the need for maintaining peace and discipline in all spheres of national life, as these are the main prerequisites for achieving overall development. He said our objective is to carry forward through an elected government the progress achieved in various fields during the last 4 years. He said frequent calls for strike and hartal [work stoppage] by some political parties are only encouraging bad elements to create indiscipline and cause sufferings to the common man.

Commending the contributions being made by the industrial and other workers in the development of national economy, the president said the government is keen to improve the quality of life of the workers by giving them more facilities.

The planning minister, Mr Sultan Ahmad Chowdhury, and representatives of the workers also spoke at the meeting.

General Elections To Be Held

BK051614 Dhaka Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 5 Jan 86

[Excerpt] President Ershad has declared general elections will be held to establish real democracy in the country. Addressing the upazila [subdistrict] chairmen's convention in Dhaka this afternoon, the president said we want to initiate new politics in the country which will ensure progess and development. We do not want politics of destruction, he added.

The president categorically announced that the Sangsad [parliament] which will be formed through general elections will be sovereign.

On upazila administration, the president said it has already brought about revolutionary changes and ushered in a new era of development. The president said the lot of the 10 crore people of Bangladesh depends on the proper implementation of the upazila program. He called the upazila chairmen as soldiers engaged in the struggle for building a new Bangladesh. He said enough powers have been given to them and their hands will be strengthened further in future.

President Appoints New Election Commissioner

BK031058 Dhaka Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 1 Jan 86

[Text] Mr Justice Abdul Mumith Chowdhury has been appointed election commissioner. President Ershad administered the oath of office to him in Dhaka today.

Foreign Minister Leaves for Morocco 3 Jan

BK031611 Dhaka Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 3 Jan 86

[Text] The foreign minister, Humayun Rashid Chowdhury, has said the Islamic Conference Organization [ICO] foreign ministers conference in the Moroccan city of Fes will discuss steps to solve the outstanding problems of the Islamic world. He was talking to newsmen at the Zia international Airport in Dhaka today before his departure for Morocco to represent Bangladesh at the meeting. The 5-day meeting begins on Monday. Among issues to be dealt by the conference are the global economic situation, cooperation among the ICO countries and Israel's nuclear armaments. Israeli aggression on Tunisia and the PLO headquarters in Tunis will also be discussed.

On his way back home, the foreign minister will pay a 2-day visit to Bonn to discuss matters of bilateral interest with West German Foreign Minister Genscher. From Bonn he will go to Sri Lanka and then to the Maldives. He will discuss with his Sri Lankan and Maldivian counterparts bilateral, regional and international issues of common concern.

Press Note Calls For Striking Workers To Return

BK050334 Dhaka Domestic Service in English 0110 GMT 5 Jan 86

[Text] The government has expressed its firm belief that those patriotic workers who are still abstaining from work will resume their duties immediately in the interest of uninterrupted production in the mills. A press note issued in Dhaka last night by the Labor and Manpower Ministry said there has been stoppage of work for the last few days in some of the jute mills at the instigation of certain labor organizations.

The government held a few rounds of discussions with those labor organizations so that there was no stoppage of work and had also tried to consider their demands in a peaceful way through negotiations, but the negotiations failed due to unaccommodating attitude of certain labor leaders and they went on partial strike from the 28th of last month, which is totally illegal under the labor laws.

The press note said the government again requested the labor leaders to withdraw the illegal strike with the assurance to consider their demands through discussions, but they did not agree to these proposals and were continuing their strike. They also associated themselves with certain political parties to strengthen today's hostile program. The press note said the government, in unequivocal terms, is declaring that such illegal strike cannot be allowed to continue for an indefinite period and the government is determined to take necessary action against the [words indistinct] who are joining the illegal strike.

Police, Strikers Clash

HK050820 Hong Kong AFP in English 0814 GMT 5 Jan 86

[Text] Dhaka, Jan 5 (AFP) — A half-day general strike called by the opposition today brought Dhaka to a near-standstill with

clashes leaving at least four people injured, witnesses said. Opposition pickets also set fire to a British High Commission pick-up van near Dhaka University campus, regarded as a hot-bed of anti-government student activism, witnesses said. The pickets, mostly students, stopped the vehicle and dragged out the driver and passengers, who were local staff of the High Commission, before setting fire to the van. The vehicle was already damaged before firemen could extinguish the blaze, but there were no injuries in the incident.

At least four people were hurt in clashes near the capital's Kampalapur railway station between police and strikers on picket duty to stop trains from running, the witnesses said. The strike was called by the two opposition alliances and the fundamentalist Jamaat-e Islami Party, both to demand in end to nearly four years of martial law and to express solidarity with 40,000 professionals and nearly a quarter million jute mill workers on strike for better pay and benefits.

Eyewitnesses said strikers stoned the car of Religious Affairs Minister K.M. Nural Islam as he was on his way to his office under heavy police guard, but he escaped unhurt.

Only police and government vehicles plied the streets, as shops, businesses and offices stayed shut for the six-hour strike period, witnesses said. Observers said fewer police were deployed in the city than during previous strikes in an apparent effort by authorities to minimize clashes. However, baton-wielding riot police stood guard outside main government buildings as groups of opposition pickets and students marched through the streets chanting anti-government slogans.

The strike came four days after military ruler General Hussain Mohammad Ershad lifted a ten-month ban on open political activities as part of his promised plans for restoring democratic rule in the country.

President Ershad came to power in a bloodless 1982 coup.

A newly-launched pro-government national party had termed today's strike "illegal" and one of its leaders had yesterday urged people to resist it.

Workers End Strike

BK060454 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 6 Jan 86

[Text] In Bangladesh, the striking doctors, engineers and agricultural experts have called off their 15-day-old strike. They have decided to return to work following negotiations with President Ershad in Dhaka last night. General Ershad assured them that their demands will be considered favorably.

The strike began on the 22d of last month demanding, among other things, better pay and status.

The announcement coincided with the 6-hour general strike yesterday which paralyzed normal life in Dhaka City. The strike call was given by the major opposition alliances to express support for striking government employees and to press for the lifting of martial law and holding a free and fair elections under a neutral government.

USSR's Gorbachev Expected To Visit India This Year

HK040740 Hong Kong AFP in English 0638 GMT 4 Jan 86

[Text] New Delhi, Jan 4 (AFP) — Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev is expected to visit India this year, *THE TIMES OF INDIA* newspaper reported today. The paper quoted the editor of the Soviet newspaper *PRAVDA*, Victor Afanasyev, as having said that Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi had told him he was looking forward to Mr Gorbacev's visit here. Mr Gandhi told Mr Afansyev, who led the Soviet delegation to the recent celebrations of the centenary of India's ruling Congress (I) Party, that he was impressed by the Soviet Leader as a statesman and as a person.

The Indian Foreign Office neither confirmed nor denied whether Mr Gorbachev was to visit India, saying only that "an invitation is standing for him to come here."

Agriculture Minister Meets SRV Counterpart

BK031559 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 3 Jan 86

[Text] India has offered to set up two pilot projects in Vietnam. The offer was made by the agriculture minister, Mr Bhuta Singh, to his Vietnamese counterpart, Mr Nguyen Ngoc Triu, who called on him in New Delhi today. These projects relate to dry-land farming and cotton development.

BJP Party Leader on Pakistan Talks, Sikh Issue

HK061224 Hong Kong AFP in English 1147 GMT 6 Jan 86

[Text] New Delhi, Jan 6 (AFP) — India should resist bilateral talks with Pakistan until Islamabad clarifies its stand on its alleged aid to Sikh militants, a top opposition leader said today.

Atal Behari Vajpayee, chairman of the pro-Hindu Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) said in the Punjab capital of Chandigarh that Pakistan's alleged aid to Sikh militants was the most important problem between the two countries. "There should be no talks on any other issue with Pakistan until that country clarifies its stand regarding the issue," the PRESS TRUST OF INDIA (PTI) news agency reported Mr. Vajpayee as saying.

The former Indian foreign minister was referring to bilateral talks on the disputed Siachen Glacier border area which are set for Islamabad on Friday. Mr. Vajpayee said that reports that Sikh militants were being trained and aided by Pakistan were disturbing.

The Siachen Glacier in Kashmir is on the border control line established after the 1971 war between the two countries. It has been the scene of frequent skirmishes between Indian and Pakistani border forces over the last two years.

Moderates among India's 16 million Sikh community want more autonomy in Punjab, while militants are waging a bloody campaign for a separate state. New Delhi claims and Pakistan denies that Islamabad aids Sikh militants.

7 Killed, 29 Injured in Ahmadabad; Curfew Imposed

BK060320 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 6 Jan 85

[Text] In Ahmadabad, 7 persons lost their lives and 29, including a police constable and some women, were injured in the violent disturbances in the Kalupur area last night. The trouble started from some quarrel over kite flying. The situation in all the areas under the Kalupur police station, which are under indefinite curfew since last night, is reported to be tense but under control.

According to the city police control, no untoward incident has been reported after additional state reserve police were posted on duty. The police resorted to lathi [baton] charge at a number of places and fired four rounds to disperse violent crowds indulging in stabbing and arson. Two shops and two vehicles were set on fire.

The Gujarat chief minister, Mr Amarsinh Chaudhari, cut short his visit to Khera and rushed to Ahmadabad last night to review the situation with senior police officials. Talking to Ahmadabad correspondent a short while ago, the Gujarat chief minister, Mr Amarsinh Chaudhari, said that the government is determined to deal sternly with the elements who are trying to disturb the peace in the state. He said the police authorities have been instructed to take firm action agaisnt those indulging in violence.

Casualties Reported in Punjab Violence

BK060336 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 6 Jan 86

[Text] In Punjab, one person was killed and five others injured in two different incidents yesterday. One person was killed and two injured when two unidentified miscreants opened fire in a market place in Moga in Faridkot District. The police have cordoned off the area, and vigorous efforts are continuing to apprehend the culprits.

In another incident three persons were injured including a constable, a woman, and house owner in an exchange of fire between the police and some suspected terrorists in a village in Amritsar District. The police were searching the house to apprehend the culprits when they were fired upon. The police gave a hot chase to the culprits, but they managed to escape.

Meanwhile, police have recovered four rifles, some police uniforms and fake police identity cards, and three motorcycles and scooters bearing fake registration numbers.

Iranian President To Begin 3-Day Visit 13 Jan
BK051530 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 5 Jan 86

[Text] The Iranian president, Hojjat ol-Eslam Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i, will pay a 3-day official visit to Pakistan from 13 January at the invitation of President Mohammad Ziaul Haq. Radio Pakistan's correspondent says the purpose of this visit is to further strengthen and consolidate the existing cordial and good-neighborly relations between the two fraternal Islamic countries.

uf headlineForeign Minister Departs for ICO Conference
BK030941 Karachi Overseas Service in Urdu 0800 GMT 3 Jan 86

[Text] Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan left Islamabad for Morocco this morning to participate in the foreign ministers' conference of Islamic countries. The conference begins in Fes next Monday. Speaking to newsmen at the airport before his departure he said matters of common concern to the Islamic nations — such as Afghanistan, the Middle East and the Iran-Iraq war — will be discussed at the conference.

He said the Afghanistan situation is the common problem of the Islamic world, and Pakistan's stand is predominately based on the clear and categorical position adopted by the Islamic Conference Organization. He expressed the hope that the Islamic foreign ministers conference will extend unanimous and full support for Pakistan's positive efforts toward settling the Afghanistan problem at the Geneva talks and for Pakistan's stand on this issue.

Noorani Comments on Ties With India, PRC
BK041049 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 4 Jan 86

[Text] The minister of state for foreign affairs, Mr Zain Noorani, has said efforts will be made to mold the foreign policy according to the aspirations of the people as the country has now entered in the era of democracy. He told newsmen in Hyderabad today that Pakistan enjoyed a respectable place in the comity of nations, especially the Muslim world and nonaligned countries, because of its foreign policy.

Mr Noorani said Pakistan attached great importance to its relations with India and is endeavoring to create an atmosphere of friendship with it. He said Pakistan also enjoyed best relations with China and this friendship had always stood the test of time.

Relations With U.S., USSR
BK050858 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 4 Jan 86

[Text] The minister of state for foreign affairs, Zain Noorani, has reaffirmed Pakistan's desire to have friendly relations with all countries, especially the neighboring ones, without compromising on principles. Talking to newsmen in Hyderabad today, he said Pakistan attaches great importance to its relations with India and is endeavoring to create an atmosphere of friendship with it. However, he said, the country's honor and prestige will not be sacrificed. Zain Noorani said: Pakistan's best relations with China have stood every test of time. Similarly, we also have friendly relations with the United States.

Zain Noorani said our relations with the Soviet Union, which were affected by the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan, have improved significantly during the past 2 years. He said Pakistan enjoys a respectable place in the community of nations, especially the Muslim world and nonaligned countries, because of its foreign policy.

Delhi: Open Political Rallies, Meetings Held
BK051558 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 5 Jan 86

[Text] In Pakistan, a series of open political rallies and meetings were held today to mark the 58th birth anniversary of the executed prime minister, Z.A. Bhutto. The rallies, organized by the Pakistan People's Party, were the first in the country since the lifting of the martial law last week.

Delhi: Writ Filed Against Martial Law Detention
BK060859 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 6 Jan 86

[Text] In Pakistan, the first writ challenging the detention of a political leader in Karachi under martial law regulations has been filed before the Sind High Court. The petition contended that after the lifting of the military rule, martial law orders are no longer applicable and the detenu [detainee] should be released.

SRI LANKA

Tamil Militants Mine Hotel of Ceasefire Monitors

NC041439 Paris AFP in English 1404 GMT 4 Jan 86

[Excerpt] Colombo, Jan 4 (AFP) — Tamil separatist militants today laid land mines around a hotel in northern Jaffna where members of a multiracial ceasefire monitoring committee were to stay, and at least two militants were wounded in a resulting clash with troops, a senior military officer said.

Lieutenant-General Cyril Ranatunge, head of anti-guerrilla operations, said security forces were removing the mines when they came under fire from the militants. At least two separatists were wounded in the gun battle, but managed to flee, he said. Residents said three others were hurt in the general panic as security forces brought in air support to help troops under fire from the militants.

Members of the committee monitoring the ceasefire between security forces and the Tamils remained at the Palaly Military Airport, unable to go to their hotel, Gen. Ranatunge said. The committee had visited Jaffna in November to look into charges by both sides of ceasefire violations. Militants reject the committee, which includes representatives of the security forces.

Delhi: 4 Killed, 40 Injured by Security Forces' Fire

BK060350 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 6 Jan 86

[Text] In Sri Lanka, 4 Tamils were killed and 40 injured when security forces opened fire in Jaffna town yesterday. The firing followed an attack from the Jaffna Fort by the Tamil militants. The security forces were trying to provide protection to the members of the cease-fire monitoring committee visiting the town. The committee was unable to meet the citizens of Jaffna town for the 2d day yesterday due to the violent incidents. On Saturday [4 January] also 17 others injured in incidents in Jaffna town.

Further Details

HK060800 Hong Kong AFP in English 0753 GMT 6 Jan 86

[Text] Colombo, Jan 6 (AFP) — Two days of fighting between Tamil militants and security forces have left at least eight dead and more than 50 wounded in northern Sri Lanka, residents have said.

Tamil militants campaigning for a separate state in the north and east poured hundreds of rounds of machine gun and mortar fire on a joint army-police camp at Jaffna Fort yesterday for the second day running, security sources told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE today.

Area residents said that at least three people died and about 40 sought treatment at Jaffna hospital as a result of yesterday's fight. They said that a total of at least eight were dead and more than 50 wounded in the two days, violence. Security sources said they were unable to confirm the figures, but said that some people may have been wounded in the more than two hours of cross fire yesterday. They said five people died after the attack on the security forces on Saturday, and that the government troops relied with firing.

The English-language daily *THE ISLAND* today quoted residents reports that three customs officers on their way to Jaffna were killed and more than 50 people received gun shot injuries in this incident.

Officials have made no statement on yesterday's reported deaths, but the secretary-general of the ceasefire monitoring committee on Saturday announced that two people had died and 14 were wounded in the clashes. Reports from Jaffna suggest that the dead were non-combatants.

Northern security sources told AFP that militants were firing into the Jaffna Fort from public places such as bus stations in the hope that civilians would be killed in expected retaliatory fire.

Some security sources said the bodies of four of the five people they reported dead in Saturday's attack had been removed from the hospital, but they were not certain who had carried out the removal.

Sources also said militants directed continuous fire at a helicopter deployed to transport members of the ceasefire monitoring committee who were still in the Jaffna Fort, unable to begin hearings on alleged violations. The helicopter was not hit, the sources said.

President Junius Jayewardene said yesterday that no political solution was possible to the ethnic issue as long as the militants did not abandon their arms. He told an estate employees meeting that security forces combatting "terrorism" aimed at destroying democratic freedoms should be fully supported.

The militants say the country's 2.5 million Tamils are discriminated against by the national Sinhala majority.

USSR's Korniyenko To Visit 'Later This Month'

LD041104 Tehran IRNA in English 1020 GMT 4 Jan 86

[Text] Tehran, Jan. 4, IRNA — The Soviet ambassador here, Vil Boldyrev, met with Iran's acting Foreign Minister 'Ali Mohammad Besharati Saturday.

In this meeting, the two sides discussed the scheduled visit to Iran of Soviet deputy foreign minister, Georgiy Markovich Korniyenko, and described it as an effective stage in the trend of mutual ties between the two countries.

The Soviet official's trip to Tehran is due to take place later this month.

The Soviet ambassador also briefed Besharati on the stands of his country on the recent summit meet between the two superpowers.

Kuwait Tortures, Expels Another 33 Iranians

LD051132 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0930 GMT 5 Jan 86

[Text] During the past few days, the Kuwaiti Government has expelled another 33 Iranians residing in Kuwait. According to a Central News Unit report, these people, who had been arrested by Kuwaiti security officials and subjected to psychological and physical torture in Kuwaiti prisons for 3 to 20 days, arrived at the ports of Rig and Genaveh by motor launch across the Persian Gulf's maritime frontiers.

Turkish Prime Minister Ozal Arrives With Delegation

LD031359 Tehran IRNA in English 1333 GMT 3 Dec 86

[Text] Tehran, Jan. 3, IRNA — Turkish Prime Minister Turgut Ozal heading a 200-man delegation arrived here Friday and was received at the airport by Premier Hoseyn Musavi and some other Iranian officials. Ozal's visit here is within the framework of the annual meetings between Iran and Turkey's prime ministers.

Turkish press has stressed the economic significance of this visit and expressed the hope that the volume of trade between Iran and Turkey would increase to three billion dollars a year.

The Turkish plane landed in Tehran via the Soviet airspace.

Mehrabad Airport Interview

LD031745 Tehran IRNA in English 1630 GMT 3 Jan 86

[Text] Tehran, Jan 3, IRNA — Turkish Prime Minister Turgut Ozal arrived here Friday [3 January] heading a Turkish economic delegation for talks with the Islamic government.

At Tehran Mehrabad Airport, Ozal and the Turkish delegation were welcomed by ranking Iranian officials among them Prime Minister Musavi, Heavy Industries Minister Behzad Nabavi, Governor of Iran's Central Bank Nourbakhsh and a group of ambassadors of Muslim countries to Tehran.

In an interview at Tehran Mehrabad Airport Ozal said he is here to exchange views with Iranian officials on "the issues of the region." He expressed confidence that Iran-Turkey relations would steadily grow in the future.

At the same interview the Iranian prime minister, Musavi, said that trade exchanges between the two countries have significantly increased. He said in light of a recently signed protocol between Tehran and Ankara the outlook of future relations between the two countries is promising.

The Turkish prime minister is expected to pay tribute to the martyrs of the Islamic Revolution Saturday as he visits their tombs at Behesht-e Sahra public cemetry south of Tehran. He is then to appear at a press interview here after a meeting with Iran's Prime Minister Musavi.

Trade exchanges between Iran and Turkey considerably increased after the Islamic Revolution in 1979. Tehran and Ankara anticipate a trade exchange in 1986 of at least three billion dollars. A protocol signed between the two countries in Tehran earlier this week provides for mutual cooperation in technical, communications, and transport fields and also foresees an increase in Iran's non-oil exports to Turkey in 1986.

Ozal is here at the invitation of Iranian Prime Minister Musavi.

First Round Musavi-Ozal Talks

LD041147 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 4 Jan 86

[Text] The first round of talks between the high-ranking Iranian and Turkish delegations, led by the two countries' prime ministers, took place in Tehran this morning. During the talks, Prime Minister Mir Hoseyn Musavi expressed the hope that the visit to Iran by the Turkish Prime minister will be very fruitful and will strengthen the two countries'relations, saying: One of our important policies has always been to demonstrate that without having resort to foreigners, the countries of the region can resolve their own problems within the framework of cooperation with one another and by recognizing one another's capabilities and taking useful steps toward thwarting foreign covetousness in the region.

Referring to the immense manpower and natural resources available for utiliztion within the framework of cooperation between the region's Islamic countries, the prime minister added: With this tremendous power, one could deal powerfully with the region's major political and economic problems.

Referring to the effect of the Iranian-Turkish friendship on creating a peaceful climate in the region, the prime minister then expounded the Islamic Republic of Iran's stances on the imposed war, saying: We detect on the face of our enemy a desire for aggression; and if we fail to crush him, the region will never see a semblance of peace and security.

Mr Musavi declared Iraq has fired 150 missiles at the population centers in Dezful alone. thus causing immense calamities. He added: I believe that this very recent act of air piracy [as heard], which constitutes an example of these crimes, should have demonstrated to you what an enemy we are facing. Mr Musavi said: regarding such crimes, it is natural for us to expect our Turkish brothers to display greater sensitivity.

According to the same report, during these talks Turkish Prime Minister Turgut Ozal also referred to foreign hostility toward the two countries' relations and called for greater sensitivity with regard to the activities of powers that make use of the immense resources of the region and hatch plots against the two countries' friendly relations.

He then reviewed the level of Iranian-Turkish relations with regard to setting up infrastructural installations and paying attention to the volume of trade between the two countries. He termed useful the expansion of these relations in the areas of railroads, power, water, telecommunications, and industrial cooperation.

The same report says: At the conclusion of the first round of the talks between the high-ranking Turkish delegation with our country's officials, the two countries' prime ministers held a private meeting to study problems of interest both sides.

Hashemi-Rafsanjani, Ozal Discussions

GF060658 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 5 Jan 86

[Text] Mr Turgut Ozal, the Turkish prime minister, met the speaker of the Islamic Majlis, Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani, this afternoon, and said: Iran is our neighbor and an elder brother, and we can take advantage of one another's resources in many fields, especially in the industrial, commercial, and other fields. At present, all the doors in Turkey are open for promoting friendly relations between the two countries. In conclusion, he added: In my opinion, the present ties between the two countries are not adequate and must expand.

Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani alluded to the need to strengthen mutual fraternal relations and said: I am of the opinion that the Turkish Government is following a very prudent and acceptable policy. I am confident that both of us have immense possibilites that complement one another, besides, there are no difficulties in the path of the expansion of bilateral relations. It is natural that we should prefer to have collaboration with a Muslim country.

The speaker of the Islamic Majlis then referred to the imposed war of Iraq against Iran and added: Regarding the war, we heartily express our loathing of it. But we believe there is no other way of delivering the region and of establishing complete peace in the area except through the riddence of Saddam and the Ba'th Party. The presence of Saddam in the area prevents any stability in the region and is, in fact, a hindrance to every kind of peace and security therein. The speaker of the Majlis continued: We feel that the international organizations have been every inadequate vis-a-vis the imposed war. They have not even been willing to castigate the aggressor overtly. For example, the Peace Council, of which you are a member as well, must vociferously declare that Saddam is respcnsible for the war and must be impeached. These are steps that, if taken by international associations, will naturally bring the end of the war closer.

The speaker of the Islamic Majlis then emphasized: If the international organizations and some of our neighbors imagine that we are unable to achieve a military victory and thus end the war, they are totally mistaken. With every attack that we undertake, we advance to some extent, and we have the ability to plan our attacks in such a manner that our blows against Iraq are violently shattering and decisive. Hence, our tactics of waiting patiently should not delude them into thinking the contrary.

Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani then referred to the recommendations of the Peace Commission and said: The errors of the Peace Commission were that it did not adopt a very articulate stand and all it did was to hold a session in camera and say to us: Please forgive Iraq. If it had adopted a specific stance and announced it, a political path toward a rapprochement might have opened up.

The report stated that at the conclusion of the meeting, Mr Turgut Ozal invited Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjan to visit Turkey.

Ankara: Ozal on First Round Talks

TA041920 Ankara Domestic Service in Turkish 1700 GMT 4 Jan 86

[Excerpt] Prime Minister Turgut Ozal has said that there is no political problem in principle between Turkey and Iran and that bilateral relations will develop even further. Ozal, currently in Tehran, held a news conference at the end of the official Turkish-Iranian talks today. He commented on the subjects discussed and agreed upon during the talks.

According to a report by a Turkish Radio and Television team, Ozal noted that both sides strongly want to develop economic relations, adding that this is the most evident proof that bilateral relations will imrpove further in the coming years. Ozal pointed out that the two sides decided that the joint Turkish-Iranian economic committee will work continuously on infrastructure problems. He said that matters concerning communications, transportation, oil and natural gas pipelines, the work of Turkish contractors in Iran, and bilateral trade were also discussed during the talks.

Ozal noted that agreement in principle was reached on increasing the telephone lines btweeen the two countries and easing communications by introducing a joint satellite project, which might possibly include Pakistan as well. The prime minister said that work will be conducted to improve railroad transportation and reestablish flights between Turkey and Iran.

Explaining that the project regarding the natural gas and oil pipelines to be constructed from Iran to Turkey were also discussed at the talks, Ozal announced that studies will begin soon to begin implementation in this field. Ozal also noted that agreement in principle was reached to enable Turkish contractors to work in Iran and assign greater roles to Turkish trucks in

transporting goods to Iran, adding that a limited free price system will be used in the trade with Iran.

ANATOLIA Report

LD041521 Ankara ANATOLIA in Turkish 1230 GMT 4 Jan 86

[Excerpts] Tehran, 4 Jan (ANATOLIA) — Prime Minister Turgut Ozal held a press conference at the end of today's round of the Turkish-Iranian talks and made a number of statements.

Ozal emphasized that Iran is a country in a state of war, and stated: "We are a country with an intimate knowledge and appreciation of the distress caused by this war. Long years ago we too went through a number of wars. We know the distress they cause. On the one hand, they cause the neglect of things that need to be done; on the other, their continuation and cost cause great distress. But, as I observed a year ago, there is no change in the attitude of Iranians on this subject.

They say that this war will continue until it is brought to a good end as far as they are concerned. It is our sincerest wish that this war be concluded in a good way for Iran, for the region, and for the countries, and that it does not cause great difficulties and distress in our region.

Turkey is perhaps more eager than any other country for an early conclusion of this affair. Nevertheless, conditions do not appear to favor this. [No closing quotation mark as received]

Prime Minister Ozal said that despite the favorable results obtained in both the economic and political fields in the talks between the two countries, there are circles which want to sow discord between Turkey and Iran. He added: "We both expressed this view in our talks. We said that both sides must therefore be careful on this count, that certain problems may be brought out when we least expect it and that efforts may be made to create a breach between the two countries. Both sides put forth the view that if there is a strain on this subject, consultations should be held; in the event of any problem things should be spelled out openly.

This shows that the efforts made in recent years to spoil the good relations between Iran and Turkey will not yield any results. [No closing quotation marks as received]

Prime minister Ozal then answered journalists' questions and gave the following answer to a question regarding the measures taken by the 6th fleet in the Mediterranean:

"We are not concerned with this question here. It is a question that concerns the Mediterranean, Libya, and Israel and America. At the present moment, we too are able to follow this solely through the press. I may even say that Al-Qadhdhafi has made a statement in this connection. I am not in a position to say much. Naturally, it would not be desirable to have an increase in tension in this way. We hope that a more serious incident is not precipitated."

Ozal on Relations With Iran

TA051835 Ankara Domestic Service in Turkish 1700 GMT 5 Jan 86

[Text] Prime Minister Turgut Ozal, who is continuing his contacts in Tehran, has said that Iran occupies an important place in Turkish foreign policy and that all the conditions for continued cooperation are present. Ozal expressed his impressions of the talks in Tehran during a meeting this afternoon with businessmen in the Turkish delegation.

According to Mustafa Tuncel and Seref Met from the Turkish Radio and Television news center, the prime minister noted that Turkey tries to maintain good relations with all countries as much as possible, adding that no problems have arisen with Iran for a long time. Ozal pointed out that a Turkey with influence among Islamic countries would also have more influence in the West and said that relations with Iran are assessed within this framework. He said: Iran, which occupies an important place in our foreign policy, is a great country with a deep-rooted past. It is easy for us to get along with this neighboring country with which we share similar cultures.

Ozal noted that Turkish businessmen should not regard cooperation with Iran as merely buying and selling goods. He asked that cooperation be extended to industry and important infrastructure projects and remarked that Turkish businessmen should be meticulous about quality in trading goods.

In the afternoon, Ozal met with Iranian Majlis Speaker Rafsanjani. He is now hosting Iranian Prime Minister Mir Hoseyn Musavi at dinner at the Turkish Embassy.

Meanwhile, an IRNA report that the Islamic Jihad organization would act against foreign missions, including Turkey, has been denied. IRNA issued a statement noting that the same report was also sent to the Beirut office of a news agency and that the organization did not make such a threat.

Parliamentarians Meet

LD041649 Tehran IRNA in English 1558 GMT 4 Jan 86

[Text] Tehran, Jan. 4, IRNA — A visiting Turkish parliamentary delegation met with Iranian Majlis deputies and reviewed issues of mutual interest with them here Saturday.

The head of Foreign Policy Committee of the Majlis, Ahmad 'Azizi, and Majlis deputies Moezi, Sadaqiani, Jalali and Safa'i were present at the meeting.

Later, the Turkish delegation was led along an inspection tour of the compounds of Majlis where they were briefed on the operation of Majlis sessions and parliamentary committees.

Ozal, Mo'ayyeri Meet 5 Jan

LD051805 Tehran IRNA in English 1734 GMT 5 Jan 86

[Text] Tehran, Jan. 5, IRNA — Turkey's Prime Minister Turgut Ozal met here Sunday with Iran's Deputy Prime Minister for

Political Affairs 'Ali Reza Mo'ayyeri and discussed with him 'effective' ways for expanding relations between the two countries.

In the meeting, the officials of the two countries emphasised on the necessity of strengthening mutual cooperation.

Meanwhile, Mr. Mo'ayyeri also held talks with Turkish governors general of Aghri and Van Provinces, Kutlu Aktash, and Ozdemir Khanghlu, respectively on improving and accelerating trade exchange between neighbouring provinces of the two countries.

Governor General of Iran's West Azarbayjan Province also attended the meeting.

French Delegation Arrives, To Discuss Fiscal Dispute

LD031327 Tehran IRNA in English 1252 GMT 4 Jan 86

[Text] Tehran, Jan. 4, IRNA — An economic, financial French delegation headed by the French Government's special envoy, Jacques Martin, arrived here Friday night.

The delegation started talks with Iranian officials from the Organization for Economic and Technical Investments, here Saturday morning.

The delegation is here to study financial disputes between Iran and France. The visit is taking place in the wake of another visit here last month by a French parliamentary delegation.

The major financial dispute between the two countries is a loan granted by Iran's Organization for Economic and Technical Investments and Funds, to the Atomic Energy Commission of France. The French Government has unconditionally guaranteed repayment of the loan.

Meanwhile, Iran's share in Sofidif Company which is active in the field of enriched uranium, will also be brought up in the course of the discussions.

These disputes have been raised in several international and French courts a number of times, but each time the court has ruled in favor of one of the two sides. [Sentence as received] However, the issue has not been resolved completely.

The current talks aim at solving these problems directly.

Discussions Continue 5 Jan

LD051128 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 5 Jan 86

[Text] According to a Central News Unit report, today the Iranian and French delegations continued their discussions in Tehran about financial disputes between the two countries.

A group of Islamic Republic of Iran officials from the Organization for Investments and Economic Assistance, Atomic Energy Organization, and the Central Bank of Iran participated in these discussions with Jacques Martin, special envoy of the French Government.

According to the same report, the meeting discussed the financial dispute between the two countries which began as a loan extended to the french Atomic Energy Commission by the Organization for Investments and Economic Assistance before the Islamic Revolution, whose repayment was guaranteed unconditionally by the French government. Iran also invested in the Sofidif uranium enrichment Company. The future and fate of the Iranain shares will be discussed in Tehran.

French President's New Year's Message Reported

LD041451 Tehran IRNA in English 1403 GMT 4 Jan 86

[Text] Tehran, Jan. 4, IRNA — President Francois Mitterrand of France in a message Saturday to his Iranian counterpart, President 'Ali Khamene'i wished [words indistinct] problems between Iran and France in the New Year."

The French president also expressed the hope that "friendly traditional relations which unite the two nations would become closer."

The message was sent to mark the new year.

Reportage on Combat Operations in War With Iraq

Communique No 2,339

LD031535 Tehran IRNA in English 1520 GMT 3 Jan 86

[Text] Tehran, Jan 3, IRNA — Iran's jet fighters and anti-aircraft units repelled Iraqi war planes violating the airpsace of Piranshahr, Marivan, Mahabad, Dehloran, Gilan-e Gharb and Sumar (all in the northwest of the country) Thursday, according to a military communique released by the Joint Staff Command of the Armed Forces here Friday.

In its Communique Number 2339, the Command says that Iranian Artillery fire on Iraqi positions in the western fronts on Thursday, set fire to several Iraqi heavy artillery emplacements and one munitions dump and demolished six observation posts and one heavy engineering vehicle of theirs, killing and wounding a number of their soldiers.

In the southern fronts, the communique says, Iraq forces sustained substantial casualties and losses when they were hit by Iranian artillery fire on Thursday. Two Iraqi patrol units in the southern fronts and one in (Lolan) region in the northwestern fronts were forced to flee while sustaining heavy casualties and damage by Iranian Muslim forces on Thursday, reports the Joint Staff.

Elsewhere, it says that Muslim combatants halted movements of an Iraq motorized unit in an area overlooking Naft-e Shahr and checked transport and stationing of an Iraqi artillery unit near Yabis region Thursday.

Meanwhile, the city of Abadan in Khuzestan Province was the target of Iraqi long-range artillery fire on Thursday during which some houses were damaged.

Communique No 2,340

LD041920 Tehran IRNA in English 1840 GMT 4 Jan 86

[Text] Tehran, Jan. 4, IRNA — Iran's jet fighters bombarded 'Rawanduz' garrison in northern Iraq at 15:17 hours local time [11:47 nours GMT]Saturday inflicting substantial losses on Iraqi forces. The Iranian fighter bombers all returned to their bases safely, reported the Joint Staff Command of the Armed Forces here Saturday.

Announcing this in its Communique Number 2340, the Command says that Iran's Muslim combatants opened fire on Iraqi positions in the western fronts on Friday, killing or wounding at least 20 Iraqi soldiers and destroying four bunkers and six observation posts of theirs as well as setting fire to two Iraqi munitions dumps.

The heavy surface-to-air fire of Iranian Muslim combatants thwarted attempts by Iraqi war planes and helicopters to attack Iranian positions throughout the fronts on Friday, according to the military communique.

The communique further says that Iranian artillery fire on Iraqi positions in the northwestern fronts on Friday inflicted considerable casualties and losses on them.

An Iraqi patrol unit trying to infiltrate Iranian positions near Naft-e Shah was forced to flee while sustaining casualties when it was hit by Iranian artillery fire, reports the Joint Staff.

Elsewhere the Joint Staff says that Iraqi positions and their command outposts and supply routes in the southern fronts came under artillery fire of Iranian Muslim forces Friday resulting in heavy casualties and damage on the enemy.

The Joint Staff also says that Iran's Gendarmerie forces shelled Iraqi positions in the Arvand River, Dehloran and Zobeidah operational regions Friday, killing or wounding a number of Iraqi soldiers and demolishing several bunkers as well as halting their engineering operations.

Meanwhile, three houses in Abadan, Khuzestan Province, were damaged by Iraqi artillery fire Friday.

Communique No 2,341

LD051501 Tehran IRNA in English 1444 GMT 5 Jan 86

[Text] Tehran, Jan. 5, IRNA — The Joint Staff Command of the Armed Forces reported here Sunday that at least 25 Iraqi soldiers were killed or wounded in the western fronts Saturday as their positions were shelled by Iranian Muslim combatants.

The Iranian artillery fire on Iraqi troops in the said fronts also set fire to parts of enemy positions and demolished one Iraqi command jeep, says the Joint Staff.

In its Communique Number 2341, the Command says that exchange of fire between Iranian Muslim forces and Iraqi troops raged somewhat more heavily in the southern fronts Saturday.

The Iranian Muslim forces held the upper hand in the said fronts on Saturday and halted Iraqi engineering operations especially near Nahr 'Anbar and Jofeyr operational regions, according to the communique.

Elsewhere the communique says Iran's Muslim combatants shelled Iraqi positions in Sumar and Kani-Sheykh Saturday, preventing enemy troops from erecting breastworks and inflicting casulaties on them.

Iranian anti-aircraft units thwarted Iraqi aerial attacks on their positions in the southern fronts on Saturday and forced Iraqi war planes and helicopters to flee from the region, reports the Joint Staff.

In the northwestern fronts, the communique says, artillery duels sporadically continued Saturday during which the Iranian artillery fire halted the operation of Iraqi vehicle columns and troops.

Meanwhile Iraqi forces shelled the city of Abadan in Khuzestan Province Saturday causing damage to some houses in the city.

Fighter-Bombers Attack Iraqi Garrison

LD061205 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 6 Jan 86

[Text] The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran reports: At 0840 today, Air Force pilots of the Islamic Republic of Iran used their fighter-bombers to bomb Iraq's (Kulak) Military Garrison west of Rawanduz with coordinates 36.36 N and 44.20 E. After inflicting heavy losses, they all returned safely to base.